

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 8-11 with the following replacement paragraph:

This object is achieved according to the following embodiments of the invention the  
~~claims. Claims 1 to 5~~ Embodiments 1 to 5 relate to particular microorganisms modified in  
this way [[,]]. Embodiment 1 refers to a recombinant microorganism for the preparation of  
D-amino acids starting from N-carbamoylamino acids or 5-monosubstituted hydantoins in  
which the gene which codes for a D-amino acid oxidase and/or the gene which codes for a D-  
serine dehydratase is inactivated by mutagenesis; Embodiments 2-5 track Embodiment 1  
where, respectively, the recombinant microorganism is an organism of the genus *Escherichia*  
*coli*, the recombinant microorganism has a D-carbamoylase gene from *Agrobacterium sp.*,  
*Arthrobacter sp.* or *Bacillus sp.*, or where the recombinant microorganism is *Escherichia coli*  
DSM 15181 or DSM 15182 or mutants derived from these strains. Embodiments while  
~~claims 6 and 7 protect~~ refer to a process for the preparation of D-amino acids where,  
respectively, the recombinant microorganism according to Embodiment 1 is utilized, and  
wherein D-aminobutyric acid, D-serine, D-methionine, D-tryptophan and D-phenylalanine  
are prepared.

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 28-32 with the following replacement paragraph:

The organisms DSM15181 (ET3) and DSM15182 (ET4) were deposited under the terms of  
the Budapest Treaty by Degussa AG on 04.09.2002 at the Deutsche Sammlung für  
Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen [German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell  
Cultures], Mascheroder Weg 1b D-38124 Braunschweig, Germany.